Loading operations at Visakhapatnam Port

*37. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inordinate delay in loading operations, particularly of iron ore meant for export to Japan, Sri Lanka and other foreign countries through Visakhapatnam Port, is resulting in huge loss of foreign exchange to M.M.T.C.; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken to avoid delay and to improve efficiency in loading operations at Visakhapatnam Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There were some problems in the month of August, 1992 in loading of iron ore vessels meant for export to Japan. A coordinated Action Plan was drawn for avoiding delay and improving efficiency for loading operations at Vizag Port. The position now is normal.

Law for two child norm

*38. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a law for strictly enforcing two child norm to arrest the over-growing population in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to set up the target of zero rate of growth of population in our country, if so, by what time;

(c) what other steps Government propose to take to create necessary awareness among the people on this front; and

(d) whether Government have achieved the target fixed during the Seventh Five Year Plan and during first year of the current plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The target is to attain Net Reproduction Rate of unity first.

(c) Programmes of information, Education and Communication through electronic media, print media, exhibitions, song & drama, and films are being intensified. Special emphasis is being laid on awareness generation and mobilising the community by strengthening ongoing schemes like Manila Swasthya Sanghs and Link Women Scheme. Efforts are being made to create a national consensus in favour of the small family norm.

(d) An ANNEXURE indicating the family planning targets and achievements during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the first year of the current plan (1992-93 upto September, 1992) is enclosed. *[See* Appendix CLXV, ANNEXURE No. 4]

Decontrolling of Petroleum Sector

*39. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to decontrol the petroleum sector in the field of import of crude and petroleum products, refining, marketing and pricing etc.;

(b) whether Government have chalked out any plan to woo the private sector and multinational companies to boost domestic oil production;

(c) whether Government have cleared investment proposals received from a number of private companies, both Indian and foreign, for setting up of refineries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard